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HOPE VICTORY

The editorial recalled that in the year from November 1966 to November 1967, the enemy losses incurred in this area totalled 68,700 killed or wounded, among them 35,330 U.S. and satellite troops, three regiment headquarters and two military sub-sections wrecked, 10 battalions, five armored columns, 86 companies, 116 platoons and 17 pacification teams wiped out, 629 aircraft downed or damaged, and 1,900 military vehicles destroyed or damaged.

Pointing to the great significance of the above victory, the editorial said: The PAVN in Quang Tri, Thua Thien, and Hue have dealt stunning blows at the U.S. and Thieu-Nguyen clique to turn this area into a defense line to prolong the partition of Vietnam. They have broken up the McNamara barrier right after it was set up, pierced the enemy's defense perimeters on highways 9 and 1, foiled many rural pacification plans of the enemy, and expanded the liberated areas.

The editorial recalled that the Tri-Thien-Hue fighters had badly battered an American Marine division and more than one division of puppet regulars, and smashed many enemy counteroffensive and defensive plans.

With their victories, the Tri-Thien-Hue fighters are showing their determination to defeat the U.S. aggressors totally, liberate South Vietnam, defend the north, and reunify their country, the editorial said.

HUGE WORKERS' CONTINENT STRIKE IN SAIGON AREA

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0105 GMT 17 Jan 68 B

(Text) Hanoi--The number of participants in the strike started 11 January by 3,500 electricity workers in Saigon for a wage increase had swollen by noon yesterday to more than 15,000, according to Western sources. Trade union members and other workers of various branches in the city, including dockers, drivers, textile weavers, rice millers, rubber trade employees, and so forth, have joined the strike. Some 1,500 employees of the three oil companies--Esso, Shell and Caltex--will probably join the strike today, the sources said.

On orders from its U.S. masters, the Thieu-Nguyen clique on the one hand is trying to run off the union leaders and on the other attempted to intimidate the strikers with decree banning strikes in wartime. They threatened the strikers with the ultimatum: go back to work or to jail. So far they have jailed nine workers' representatives and threatened to bring them before a military court.

CONTINUATION OF U.S. AGGRESSION CONTINUES

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0204 GMT 17 Jan 68 B

(Text) Hanoi--The people in many countries continue to demand that the United States stop bombing the DRV and end its war of aggression against Vietnam.

A total of 523 members of 50 trade union organizations in 38 states in the United States and Canada at a recent conference in Chicago issued a statement saying that nothing could justify the sacrifice of countless precious lives of American youths and Vietnamese men, women and children. For that reason, the statement said, we demand an immediate and unconditional end to the U.S. bombing of the DRV. It also demands that the United States negotiate with the NLFV for an end to the war.

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NORTH VIETNAM

Young New Zealanders on 26 December started an 18-day march in protest against the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam and against the New Zealand Government's policy of serving as an accomplice of the United States. They distributed leaflets all along the 520-mile road and held rallies in big and small towns, condemning the U.S. war of aggression. Many people joined in the March.

On 32 January, French television screened a 40-minute documentary entitled "North Vietnam" shot by Francois Chalais. The film featured the people's production and combat activities in Hanoi, the crimes committed by the United States in dropping clusterbombs on civilian civilians, and an interview with American air pirate John McCain, captured in Hanoi last October. The film ended with an interview with Premier Tran Van Dong.

Another 20-minute documentary shot by Brigitte Frieng was screened on the same day by French television, showing U.S. failures in South Vietnam and the American soldiers who start to doubt.

In Tokyo, Japan, representatives of various organizations and students demonstrated to protest against the arrival in Japan of the U.S. aircraft carrier Enterprise. They distributed leaflets calling on U.S. soldiers to follow the example set by the four U.S. sailors who had left the Intrepid to protest against the U.S. war in Vietnam.

In Tunisia, students and professors, doctors and other intellectuals on 12 January signed a message denouncing an end to the U.S. dirty war in Vietnam. The message said: We intellectuals in Tunisia affirm the Vietnamese people's heroism, and express our solidarity with their just struggle for national liberation. It demanded that the United States end its unjust war in Vietnam and recognize the NLF as the only legal representative of the South Vietnamese people.

In Holland, the committee for Vietnam organized a collection of signatures to a petition demanding that the Dutch Government protest against the U.S. aggressive war in Vietnam. This petition will be sent to members of the Dutch Parliament. In addition, 119 Dutch students have sent an open letter to Joseph Luns, Dutch Foreign Minister, urging him to protest the U.S. bombing of the DRV.

PREVIOUS SIGNIFICANT EVENTS REPORTED AT CEREMONY

Radio Domestic Service to Vietnamese 0430 GMT 15 Jan 68 S

[Reportage on a ceremony held by the radio transportation branch to receive the receiver flag prize of the Communications and Transportation Ministry]

(Text) During the emulsion phase filled with north-south love and launched in response to the South Vietnam National Liberation Front Central Committee's recent appeal, our dear combatants of the truck transportation branch, thanks to their wonderful courage and rich initiative, overcame the cruellest aggressive measures of the U.S. aggressors and firmly gripped their steering wheels, thus maintaining communications, outstandingly fulfilling all the tasks entrusted them by the higher authorities, and leaving the entire communications and transportation branch during the seething year-and-emulsion phase.

Recently, the road transportation branch had the honor of receiving from the Communications and Transportation Ministry a rotation prize: a flag awarded by the permanent NLFST delegation to the north.